

REMARKS

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 15, 16 and 30 are canceled herein.

New claims 34 and 35 are added.

Various of the claims are amended.

Support for the claim amendments and new claims is found, for example, in FIG. 2, and the disclosure on page 13, line 17, through page 15, line 14, of the specification.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-14, 17-29 and 31-35 are currently pending.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-33 UNDER 35 USC 102(E) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY KEKIC

New claim 34 recites a system comprising (a) a plurality of distributed gateways each operable to manage one or more network elements; (b) a central information base storing user-defined behavior objects, each behavior object defining management behavior for managing a distributed gateway of the plurality of distributed gateways; and (c) a central management processor accessing a respective behavior object stored in the information base and causing the respective behavior object to be communicated to the distributed gateway for which the respective behavior object defines management behavior, so that the communicated behavior object is stored locally in, and then executed by, the distributed gateway. See also new claim 35.

For example, in FIG. 2 of the present application, a plurality of distributed gateways 210, 211, 212, 213, 220, 221, 222 and 223 are each operable to manage one or more network elements 214, 224. A central information base 503 stores user-defined behavior objects. Each behavior object defines management behavior for managing a distributed gateway of the plurality of distributed gateways. A central management processor 202 access a respective behavior object stored in the information base and causes the respective behavior object to be communicated to the distributed gateway for which the respective behavior object defines management behavior, so that the communicated behavior object is stored locally in, and then executed by, the distributed gateway. See, for example, page 13, line 17, through page 15, line 14, of the specification.

Kekic does not disclose a system using distributed gateways to manage network elements in the manner recited, for example, in new claim 34.

For example, FIG. 3A of Kekic does not disclose such use of distributed gateways to

manage network elements. Instead, in FIG. 3A of Kekic, each network element has its own network management agent resident thereon. For example, referring to FIG. 3A of Kekic, workstation 320 has its own network management agent 321 resident thereon, router 340 has its own network management agent 341 resident thereon, printer 350 has its own network management agent 351 resident thereon, internet server 380 has its own network management agent 381 resident thereon.

Moreover, Kekic does not disclose the use of a central management processor accessing a respective behavior object stored in a central information base and causing the respective behavior object to be communicated to the distributed gateway for which the respective behavior object defines management behavior as recited, for example, in claim 34.

For example, FIG. 3A of Kekic does not disclose such a central information base storing behavior objects, or the communication of behavior objects from such a central information base to distributed gateways.

The above arguments are specifically directed to claim 34. However, it is respectfully submitted that various of the arguments would be helpful in understanding various differences of various claims over Kekic.

For example, please note that claim 1 is amended to recite a "centralized" management information base. Claim 1 also recites at least one gateway communicatively coupled to a management processor, and that the at least one gateway is operable to manage at least one network element. Further, claim 1 is amended to recite that the management processor accesses an object stored in the management information base and implements the management behavior defined by the object in accordance with the relationship attribute identifying a gateway and included in the object.

Moreover, claim 29 is amended to recite that the central management processor executes a management process which autonomously determines one or more of the plurality of distributed gateways to which one or more of the user-defined behavior objects stored in said information base are to be communicated, and which causes the one or more of the user-defined behavior objects to be communicated and thereby stored locally in the determined one or more of the plurality of distributed gateways, so that the code of the one or more of the plurality of distributed gateways executes in accordance with the communicated one or more of the user-defined behavior objects.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

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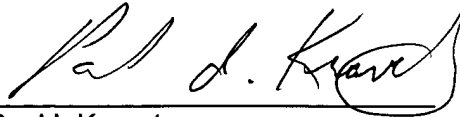
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III. CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

Respectfully submitted,

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